

The Scranton Tribune

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E. P. KINGSBURY, Pres. and Gen'l. Mgr. E. M. RIPLEY, Sec'y and Treas.

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SCRANTON, MAY 11, 1896.

The Tribune is the only Republican daily in Lackawanna County.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

Congressmen-at-Large, GALESIA A. GROW, of Susquehanna, SAMUEL A. DAVENPORT, of Erie.

During the last few months of May this country has sustained a net loss of gold averaging \$17,980,243 for each day.

What the Nation Expects.

Notwithstanding the queerness of much of the present administration's diplomacy it may, we think, be fairly assumed that the department of state will take effective steps to secure justice for the two Americans who were on Saturday condemned to death at Havana upon the charge of filibustering.

Overriding the protest of Consul General Williams—and the mere fact that this aged and supine official should for once have been aroused from his lethargy and incited to activity gives plausibility to each subsequent assertion made in the dispatches from Havana—the Spanish authorities in the Cuban capital have, it appears, rushed these two Americans to trial, deprived them of a knowledge of the charges against them, denied them the selection of their own counsel and refused to permit them to call witnesses for their defense.

The interesting fact is recalled by the Chicago Times-Herald that with the exception of James K. Polk, who was the first successful "dark horse," no speaker of the house of representatives has ever been elected president. On the contrary, several speakers have been elected to the vice-presidency. This is a timely pointer for Speaker Reed.

Mrs. Baldwin's Opportunity.

The Baldwins have reached Pittsburg, where Mrs. Baldwin informs a reporter that she was always considered queer. "When quite a little girl," she adds, "I used to see and hear things that other people couldn't. People called me silly, and my mother used to take me to the family physician, thinking I was really out of my head. I can hardly explain how I work. I see the person who wrote the question as in a cloud. If the paper is placed against my forehead, everything becomes clear and as though magnified. When the scene is over all that has transpired is forgotten, except a shadowy remembrance—like we remember dreams. No, I cannot answer all questions. For instance, I seldom tell people when they call on me as a card case, or when criminals in a noted case. For this reason I will not tell the real murderers of Pearl Bryan in public. It would prejudice the trial."

This forbearance on the part of the "White Mahatma" is unquestionably kind; but it occurs to us at the moment that Mrs. Baldwin really owes it to society to attach herself in a confidential capacity to the courts of justice, so that, in murder trials after the jury has rendered a decision, she might be able to inform the presiding judge whether the condemned man is innocent or guilty. This would save our courts from the disagreeable necessity of talking, every now and then, an innocent life, as a consequence of the habit of loading up juries with timber unfit to exist in a retreat for imbecility.

The Washington Post has made the first cabinet guess. As a curiosity it is worthy of reproduction. Here it is: For secretary of state, John Sherman, of Ohio; for secretary of war, H. Clay Evans, of Tennessee; for secretary of agriculture, John W. Gowdy, of Indiana; for secretary of the interior, Ex-Governor Merriam, of Minnesota; for attorney general, Horace Porter, of New York; for secretary of the treasury, M. A. Hanna, of Ohio; for secretary of the navy, M. H. De Young, of California, and for postmaster general, Gilbert H. Hobart, of New Jersey. Has the Post anything against Major McKinley?

Mrs. Baldwin, the "White Mahatma," told a Pittsburg inquirer last Monday, that Allison would be the next president. When in Scranton it will be remembered that she predicted Reed's election. If she keeps on guessing long enough she will undoubtedly be correct.

William E. Curtis, the Washington representative of the Chicago Record, adds his mite to the fund of testimony showing that Senator Quay's opposition to McKinley has had nothing personal behind it. Says he: "During the entire contest Quay has always spoken in kindly tones of Major McKinley, and

seem to have made more out of America during the past four years than any other class.

Speaker Reed should not despair. The presidency is an honor worth trying for more than once.

Trouble Concerning Passports.

It appears that the officials of Wurttemberg have released into the bad German habit of questioning the validity of American passports. The United States has uniformly insisted that its passports shall be deemed prima facie evidence of lawful citizenship. But the smart authorities of this German city prefer to follow their own intuitions on this point, and the result is that our state department has had to call them down. The affair has not yet reached a conclusion, the imperial foreign office at Berlin having manifested a disposition to confirm the Wurttemberg offenders in their large conceit. But that it will work out amicably and to the entire satisfaction of this government can hardly be doubted, despite the mildly contemptuous but nevertheless exasperating opinion prevalent throughout Germany touching American and Americans.

It is possible that we ourselves are indirectly to blame for this ruffling incident. The language employed on the American passport blank is such as to invite contentious treatment from foreigners swelled with brief authority. We say in effect: "This is to certify that _____ is a citizen of the United States, and as such the American government requests that he receive from other governments the privileges usually accorded to the citizens of a friendly power," etc. But the British, both wiser and more delicate, in their passports insert, after the word "requests," the words "and requires," and the pledge thus given is kept to the letter. Thus while the officious petty authorities of Europe have a chronic habit of indicating a highly developed sense of their great importance when they peruse an American passport, their air changes instinctively into one of marked deference before the august seal of Great Britain.

This year many thousands of our fellow-citizens will travel in Europe. We may question their wisdom in spending \$100,000,000 of American gold in foreign lands at a time when we find it so very hard to get hold of gold at all at home. We may suggest that while European travel is informing, there are portions of America of which the same can also be said. But so long as this tide of Yankee tourists annually ebbs and flows across the Atlantic, it is from every standpoint desirable that those who go armed with the official passports of the United States government should be protected while abroad from needless annoyance and that the seal which is stamped on their credentials of citizenship shall, in foreign cities, be vouchsafed common courtesy and respect. If the delicacy of diplomatic intimations shall not suffice to secure these desirable considerations, then it might behoove our department of state to destroy its old passport form and initiate in a new form the more robust phraseology of the United Kingdom.

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only a few evenings ago he sternly rebuked one of his lieutenants for some ugly things he had said in the newspapers about McKinley and Hanna." It was Senator Quay's right to try to secure the St. Louis nomination himself. It will be his privilege to help elect the man who beats him in convention.

From a "special" dated in Wall street and appearing in the Philadelphia Stockholder, we are told with that sapient and profound air which always characterizes anonymous deliverances touching speculative interests that "the financial community here and abroad does not favor ex-Governor McKinley for the presidency. If it should happen," this same oracular "special" goes on to say, "that the St. Louis convention nominates him, the chances are Europe would cease to buy more of our securities, and not unlikely to send over a lot of them. The stock market must, in these circumstances, go down." This is truly alarming. But there is possibly some consolation in the fact that if foreign owners of American securities want to sell on a falling market, they can most likely be accommodated with plenty of American buyers, who will be glad to get good securities at a discount. Much as we seem disposed to concede to foreigners these days it is hardly probable that we shall for some time yet have to ask the bankers of London and Hamburg whom we may nominate for president.

It probably is true that President Cleveland's devotion to civil service reform is intensified by the nervousness of his party's stepping-out time. But when we consider how long a period will intervene before that party will again get a glimpse of federal spoils, it becomes somewhat difficult to blame him.

Mr. Harrity says he regards McKinley as the easiest opponent the Democrats could have. We will consider that proposition in the morning of Nov. 4.

SPEAKER REED'S MISTAKE.

Walter Wellman's Washington Letter in the Pittsburg Daily News.

Speaker Reed is naturally much disappointed at the outcome of his campaign for the presidency. A few months ago his friends were very confident that he would be the choice of his party this year for the highest office in the government. When Congress assembled last December, Mr. Reed was triumphantly elected speaker, few observers foreseeing that in four or five months he would fall so far to the rear as a presidential candidate. The great personality of the man, his admitted intellectual force, his past leadership, the friendship of some of the most powerful politicians in the country and the vast power lying in his hands as the chief spirit of the house of representatives gave every one a right to think that he would not actually become the nominee of his party he would be well up in the balloting. Not improbably, had he been named by the withdrawal, while his friends were not long since very confident of the outcome, it is to be regretted that Mr. Reed himself has never had anything more than a hope. He has never felt anything approaching confidence. At the same time he feels keen disappointment at the sorry showing made by the canvass in his behalf. He is disappointed because of the result in several of the New England states, where it is admitted the speaker has not fared as well as had been expected. Mr. Reed now admits in conversation with his friends that he made one great mistake of policy when he first came to Washington last winter. When he announced an ultra conservative policy in the management of the house, he was told that the country would approve this course as much for what it did not do as for what it did do. The first bill he introduced, Mr. Reed announced this policy upon the advice of friends. He was not originally in favor of it, but after listening to their arguments and representations, now he wishes he had not.

Speaker Reed realized that he had come to occupy a certain place in the imaginations and affections of the people. He was looked up to almost universally as the man of ability, the man of courage, as the man who taught the house of representatives how to do business, as the man of great reputation. He had made the country in distress. Hard times were still upon the people. There was a demand for relief in his action. He had done even though the conditions at this capital were such as to make successful legislation well nigh impossible. In the management of his peculiar composition of the senate and with a Democrat in the white house—still an admitted conservative, he had done his best. He had taken the sort of a course which representatives would have followed if they had been in the house of representatives. He had done his best to improve the condition of affairs of the people who had elected him, even though failure marked the effort in another department of the government. All this the speaker now perceives when it is too late.

Even more disastrous has been the effect of the policy which was accepted by the popular mind concerning Mr. Reed himself. A man is to the country not what he may think he is, but what his friends and advisers may think, and possibly not that which he is at all, but only that which the country has made him in its imagination. Having once attained a certain ideal in the popular mind, a public man must live up to it, must be measured by that standard, or he is nothing. Reed had been idealized as the man of action and courage, as the man who had made the country, and did it unselfishly. But he had failed to realize this ideal, he had been unpractical, so far as the country was concerned, he was not a creature of the people, he was nothing. When he announced his policy of practical do-nothingism, of passivity, the popular mind thought there was no doubt whatever about New England. They had no fear of McKinley making broadsides. Now they perceive their mistake. The status of the campaigning might be very different from what it is today if the Republicans had been called to meet very early in the year. They were not called to meet until the very last day of the campaign for Reed, as it is admitted they would have declared some time ago. The delay was fatal. Another thing that Reed's campaign has demonstrated is that the speaker-ship of the house is a poor place from which to seek the presidency. The organizing committees he is forced to offend about as many men as he pleases. The same thing is true of legislation and appropriations. Everything that is done has two sides, it is a two-edged sword. Again it is clearly demonstrated that congressmen are failures as agents to secure the election of delegates to a national convention. The average congressman exhausts his personal capital in securing his own re-nomination and re-election, and any attempt on his part to dictate as to presidential choice or delegates is likely to be resented. For this reason, many of Mr. Reed's investments in committee chairmen have turned out badly.

Other mistakes were made by the Reed managers. For instance, they should have called all the New England conventions early in the year. They were not called to meet by the managers for other presidential candidates who were making common cause against McKinley. But the Reed people thought there was no doubt whatever about New England. They had no fear of McKinley making broadsides. Now they perceive their mistake. The status of the campaigning might be very different from what it is today if the Republicans had been called to meet very early in the year. They were not called to meet until the very last day of the campaign for Reed, as it is admitted they would have declared some time ago. The delay was fatal. Another thing that Reed's campaign has demonstrated is that the speaker-ship of the house is a poor place from which to seek the presidency. The organizing committees he is forced to offend about as many men as he pleases. The same thing is true of legislation and appropriations. Everything that is done has two sides, it is a two-edged sword. Again it is clearly demonstrated that congressmen are failures as agents to secure the election of delegates to a national convention. The average congressman exhausts his personal capital in securing his own re-nomination and re-election, and any attempt on his part to dictate as to presidential choice or delegates is likely to be resented. For this reason, many of Mr. Reed's investments in committee chairmen have turned out badly.

From the Chicago Times-Herald. The Times-Herald had the honor of being the first newspaper in the country to nominate "Thump" McKinley for vice-president of the United States. A suggestion was received with enthusiasm and the paper was full of it. It was a suggestion, however, that was not accompanied by a disposition to construe the nomination as an invitation to Reed to get out

of McKinley's way, and some chose to regard it as a belittling of Mr. Reed's claims and qualifications for the first place on the ticket. Nothing was further from our intention. The nomination was made in good faith, and we take occasion to re-echo it in the same spirit now that Major McKinley's success at St. Louis is beyond all doubt. The fact that Mr. Reed is worthy in all respects to fill the presidential chair is one reason why we are so anxious to see him elected vice-president. There is no brainer man in public life. He fills the measure of statesmanship. His principles are sound, his record is flawless, he is courageous in the highest degree, he has been faithful to every trust, his bearing in this canvass while speaker of the house has been such as to command the respect and admiration of the people.

It is high time to restore the vice-presidency to the old standard. An office which has been held by such men as John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, John C. Breckinridge, Hannibal Hamlin, Henry Wilson, Chester A. Arthur and Levi P. Morton is big enough for any man, and Thomas B. Reed is big enough to fill it. Too often, however, it has been made a stepping-stone to election without mature consideration at the last moment as a sop for a disappointed faction or to the highest bidder in contributions for the campaign fund. No thanks to anybody if these afterthoughts have in some cases resulted in judicious elections. With the question of the presidency set aside before the meeting of the national convention, the Republican party may give the vice-presidency the attention which it deserves, but it is seldom received. Such deliberation can only strengthen the conviction that Mr. Reed is the man for the place.

Another consideration is that Mr. Reed, above all other men, is regarded as a presiding officer of the senate. As speaker of the house of representatives his genial, common sense and courage, receding in parliamentary abuses of a century's growth. He cut the Gordian knot of legislative question, he held the members of the house attentive to their business and tied them to discharge duty by rules which have now almost the force of law. The senate, with the advent of the Tillmans and the Potters, has drifted into methods of debate which have attained the proportions of a national scandal. On the other hand, it is encumbered with traditions of the past which are like the wheels of legislation almost impossible to move. A common sense is needed to lubricate the machinery by doing away with the rest of the old senators and the ravens of the new. No ordinary man is equal to this work. He is a man made for the purpose.

But will Mr. Reed accept? Why not? When has he ever shirked public duty? Let the nomination be given him, not in trade, not gratuitously, not as a consolation prize, but with enthusiasm, and un-animously. The tendered, a vice-presidential nomination is an honor and leads to a sphere of public usefulness which any man might be proud to accept. McKinley and Reed. That is the ticket.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaxchus, the Tribune Astrologer.

Astrological cast: 2:17 a. m., for Monday, May 11, 1896. A child born on this day will have a fondness for palm leaf fans and red lemons. The young man who delimits in lingering at the gate with his best girl beneath the star-dusted canopy of the heavens, admits that this weather is all right. The man who remarks "Is it not enough for you?" and "The Scranton club needs strengthening," has had his lining. Elmhurst hath her troubles, also. Some one has accused the councils or having squandered \$7,500 of public funds during the past year. It looks as though Mayor Bailey still cherished the ambition of being known to posterity as the man who pleased everybody.

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